

PATENT

Application No. 09/221,250
Attorney Docket No.: 98-057**CLAIM AMENDMENTS
CLEAN FORM**

Amend claims 47, 68, 75, 95, 117, 127, 133, 140 and 174 to read as follows:

47. (Amended) A method for a central server to manage remote monitoring tasks, comprising:

receiving a request from a user of a user device to monitor a remote location in exchange for compensation to the user;

determining a remote location to be monitored;

enabling communication between a sensor at the remote location and the user device; and

measuring user attentiveness while the user device is in communication with the sensor.

68. (Amended) A method for alerting a user of a computer of an emergency at a remotely monitored location, comprising:

maintaining the computer in communication with a sensor at the remotely monitored location;

transmitting a signal indicative of a predetermined event detected by the sensor to the computer; and

transmitting video data from a camera at the remotely monitored location to the computer,

wherein the signal causes the computer to preempt a program unrelated to remote monitoring to display the video data.

75. (Amended) A method for a user of a data network to monitor remote locations in exchange for value, comprising:

receiving a data stream generated by a sensor at a remote location;

monitoring the data stream for an amount of time; and

receiving credit to a user account for monitoring the data stream for that amount of time.

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95. (Amended) The system of claim 94 wherein the user device is a personal computer.

117. (Amended) A system for managing remote monitoring tasks comprising:
a central server including a memory device and a processor in communication with the memory device;
and the processor configured to:
assign to a user of a data network a remote monitoring task including a remote location to monitor and a shift for monitoring the remote location; and
provide the user with information relating to the remote monitoring task, the information to be transmitted by the user to the central server at approximately a start of the shift.

127. (Amended) A system for managing remote monitoring tasks comprising:
a memory device;
a processor in communication with the memory device;
and the processor configured to:
determine a remote location to be monitored;
enable communication between a sensor at the remote location and a plurality of users of a data network;
determine an amount of time each user of the plurality of users has monitored the remote location; and
credit value to each user of the plurality of users for monitoring the remote location in accordance with the amount of time that each user has monitored the remote location.

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133. (Amended) A system for managing remote monitoring tasks comprising:
a memory device;
a processor in communication with the memory device;
and the processor configured to:
receive a request from a user of a user device to monitor a remote location in
exchange for compensation to the user;
determine a remote location to be monitored;
enable communication between a sensor at the remote location and the user device
for remote monitoring purposes; and
measure user attentiveness while the user device is in communication with the
sensor.

140. (Amended) The system of claim 133 wherein the processor is
configured to measure user attentiveness by transmitting a test communication to the user at the
user device; and determining whether a response to the test communication has been received
within a predetermined period of time.

174. (Amended) A system for a central server to manage remote monitoring
tasks, comprising:
a memory device;
a processor in communication with the memory device;
and the processor configured to:
receive a request from a user of a user device to monitor a remote location;
determine a remote location to be monitored;
determine whether predetermined criteria have been satisfied prior to enabling
communication between a sensor at the remote location and the user device;
enable communication between the sensor and the user device;
measure user attentiveness while the user device is in communication with the
sensor for remote monitoring purposes; and
credit value to the user in accordance with an amount of time the user device has
been in communication with the sensor for remote monitoring purposes.

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Add new claims 180 and 181 as follows.

180. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the user does not specify the remote location to be monitored by the user, and the central server selects the remote location to be monitored by the user.

181. (New) The system of claim 94, wherein the user does not specify the remote location to be monitored by the user, and the central server selects the remote location to be monitored by the user.